THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) At present there are ten Atomic Power Plants in India. No unit under decommissioning.

(b) No, Sir, Unit-I of Rajasthan Atomic Power Station (RAPS) near Kota in under shutdown from February 1994 due to a heavy water leak from the Over Pressure Relief Device (OPRD) located in an inaccessible area. Unit-2 has been shutdown from 1st August, 1994 for inservice inspection and onmasse replacement of coclant channels and upgradation of systems.

(c) and (d) The leak from the Over Pressure Relief Device (OPRD) has been successfully fixed RAPS-I is expected to be recommissioned shortly after receiving requisite clearance from the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board. RAPS-2 is proposed to be recommissioned during 1998 after completion of the replacement of coolant channels and upgradation of systems.

(e) RAPS units-1&2 have been derated to 100 MWe and 200 MWe respectively from the original installed capacity of 220 MWe each.

(f) There is no proposal for allocation of additional power in lieu of deration of RAPS Units.

(g) Unit-3&4 of RAPP are expected to be commissioned during 1998-99.

(h) and (i) Government of India has so far not taken a decision about the allocation of Power from the RAPP-3&4. This will be decided on the eve of commissioning of the Units.

Spurious LPG Cylinders

*352. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the number of locally manufactured gas cylinders and regulators have risen sharply in the metros;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these fake cylinders and regulators are highly dangerous and can cause a disaster at any time; and

(d) if so, the steps taken or contemplated by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) No such case has been reported.

(b) Not applicable in view of (a) above.

(c) Yes, Sir. If such equipments are put into use, they may prove to be dangerous.

(d) As stated in (a) above no case of circulation of spurious cylinder/regulators have been reported in the metros recently. However, such cylinders are normally detected at bottling plants where such equipments are deshaped and crushed, so that they may not come back into circulation. In case of such non-standard cylinders and regulators detected at plants and whenever the source is identified as distributor, transporter etc, debits are raised at penal rates on the distributors, transporter concerned, which acts as a deterrent.

[Translation]

LPG Distribution

*353. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether LPG distribution agency in Kumaon division is with the Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam;

(b) the other institutions which own gas distribution agencies;

(c) whether the Government propose to handover the distribution of LPG in Kumaon division to some Non-Governmental Organisations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Oil Marketing Companies have not yet appointed any other institution for distribution of LPG in the Kumaon Hills.

(c) to (d) As yet, there is no proposal to change the existing policy of allotment of LPG distributorships in Kumaon Region. Locations meeting Oil Industry's viability norms are allotted through normal selection procedure of issue of advertisement and selection of the candidates by the competent selection authority on the basis of interviews. As per past policy, other locations are allotted to Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam subject to product availability.

Construction carried out by NBCC

*354. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether many buildings, roads and bridges are being constructed by the National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the expenditure incurred on all these projects during each of the last three years and till date;

(d) the details of projects completed and lying incomplete at present; and